(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Notification S.O. No. 26(E), dated the 9th January, 1997, publishing the paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation) Order, 1997, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1382/97].

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Madam, a point of clarification. item No.(i) is the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Participation of Private Parties with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited. When did the Government receive the CAG Report? Madam, when did the Government actually receive the report? He is laying it today. This is a very important CAG report.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chaturvedi should have asked this question, he being the former Comptroller and Auditor General. You are asking embarrassing questions at the last minute.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Madam, it is a transparent Government. There should be no problem.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Madam, we received it in December, 1996.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Madam, my supplementary question is, why has such delay taken place?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Basu, it is of December, 1996. I think there is a lack of communication today.

Notification of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): Madam I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951 a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training):—

(1) G.S.R. No. 554, dated 14th December, 1996 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifth Amendment Regulations, 1996.

(2) G.S.R. No. 555, dated 14th December, 1996 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay), Sixth Amendment Rules, 1996.

(3) G.S.R. No. 587(E), dated 26th December, 1996 publishing the Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 1996.

(4) G.S.R. No. 588(E), dated 26th December, 1996 publishing the Indian Forest Service (Pay) Fourth Amendment Rules, 1996.

(5) G.S.R. No. 589(E), dated 26th December, 1996 publishing the Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Third Amendment Regulations, 1996.

(6) G.S.R. No. 590(E), dated 26th December, 1996 publishing the Indian Forest Service (Pay) Third Amendment Rules, 1996.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1380/97].

(i) **Report and Accounts (1995-96) of the National Institue of Urban Affairs, New Delhi and related papers.**

(ii) **Memorandum of understanding between the Govt. of India and N.B.C.C., New Delhi for the year 1996-97.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi for the year 1995-96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at(a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1379/97].

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment) and National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1378/97].

NOMINATION OF PANEL OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that Hon. Chairman has nominated Mr. V. Narayanasamy and Mr. Ajit P.K. Jogi to function as Vice-Chairman during the current session of the Rajya Sabha.

RE. DISCRETIONARY QUOTA OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FOR TELEPHONE AND GAS CONNECTIONS

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): उपसभापति महोदया ...

उपसभापति: आप किस विषय पर बोल रहे हैं?

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: महोदया, सांसदों का गैस और टेलीफोन्स का कोटा खत्म कर दिया गया है।

उपसभापति: यहां नहीं लिखा है।

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: महोदया, यह तो खत्म हुआ है परंतु हमें इनफार्मेशन नहीं है कि क्या मिनिस्ट्र का कोटा भी खत्म हुआ है या नहीं हुआ है? सेक्रेटरीज़ का कोटा खत्म हुआ है या नहीं हुआ है और ये जो ऑफिशियल्स हैं, ब्यूरोक्रेट्स हैं, ये भी तो गैस और टेलीफोन के कनेक्शन दे रहे हैं। मैम्बर्स का कोटा खत्म कर दें, इसमें हमें कोई ऐतराज़ नहीं है लेकिन मिनिस्टर्स सेक्रेटरीज़ या ब्यूरोक्रेट्स का कोटा खत्म किया गया है या नहीं? मैम्बर्स का तो गैस और टेलीफोन का कोटा खत्म कर दिया गया है, ऐसा स्पीकर साहब ने लोक सभा में घोषित किया है। मैं इसका कोई विरोध नहीं कर रहा हूं

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): They take away Members' privilege and the officials have unlimited privilege.

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: आप इसको मिनिस्ट्र से शुरू करिए और सेक्रेटरीज़ से शुरू करिए। मैंने देखा है कि सेक्रेटरीज़ सैकड़ों की तादाद में ये कनेक्शन देते हैं, मामूली से मामूली अफसर कनेक्शन दे रहे हैं उनको परमीशन है पर सिर्फ मैम्बर्स का डिसक्रीशन कोटा खत्म करना ठीक नहीं है। उनका कोटा खत्म कर भी शुरू करिए और यहां हाऊस में बताइए कि इस बाद यह कोटा न कोई मिनिस्टर यूज़ करेगा, न कोई अ करेगा। सिर्फ फर्स्ट कम फर्स्ट सर्व के बेसिस पर ही कनेक्शन दिए जाएंगे।

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Madam, there is one more point to be considered by you and the whole House. A unilateral announcement has been made in the Lok Sabha. It is applicable to the Members of the Rajya Sabha?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not the point.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: There should be some consultation between the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha and with our hon. Chairman and our hon. leader as well. It has been suddenly announced but is it applicable to the Members of the Rajya Sabha? If it is, since when will it be applicable—April or July?